

Appl. No. 10/652,651  
Art Unit: 1771

Applicant: Brouard, Marcel  
Examiner: Elizabeth M. Cole

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APR 17 2007

## REMARKS

### Rejections under 35 USC 112

Examiner has rejected claim 11 as failing to comply with the written  
5 description requirement and as being indefinite under 35 USC 112,  
first and second paragraphs, respectively. Accordingly, Applicant has  
canceled pending claim 11 and Examiner's rejections under 35 USC 112  
should be withdrawn.

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### Rejections under 35 USC 103

None of the prior art documents discloses a plurality of member hooks  
each providing a high shear resistance in all directions, as claimed in  
newly amended claim 7. (Emphasis added)

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Even though the mushroom shape hook was known [*Manor col. 6, lines  
57 to 59: i.e., hook and loop systems, useful in the present invention  
include mushroom hooks, 'J' hooks, stalks, and 'T' hook*], it is not  
obvious that this particular hook shape is highly resistant to shear  
20 effort in all directions, as opposed to the other two shapes namely T  
shape and J shape, and as disclosed in the **background of the present  
invention on page 9, lines 5 to 9** [*The mushroom shapes offer a form  
of hook which is equally strong all around, on 360 degrees. They tend  
to grab more than one fiber at a time. Hence, they are resistant to  
25 shear effort applied in any direction* (note that a shear effort is applied  
between two parallel pads which remain stuck together when the shear  
resisting strength is high. It is then very difficult to separate two pads

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when the mushroom shape hook is used in combination with regular loop) *and stay easy to change when an effort is applied in tension* (this last line refers to a tension effort which is happening when two pads are separated by pulling them apart from one another, which is not the case in a static application when the pads are pressed together between a chair leg and a floor)]. (Emphasis added)

None of the prior-art pads provides this new and unexpected feature of member hooks providing a high shear resistance in all directions. Since the novel above physical features of applicant's device provide these new and unexpected results over any reference, applicant submits that these new results indicate unobviousness and hence patentability. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner's rejections of claims 7 under 35 USC 103(a) be withdrawn.

Dependent claims 8-10 and 12-14 and new claim 15 should be found allowable by the Examiner since they depend on newly amended claim 7 as hereinabove described, and the corresponding Examiner's rejections under 35 USC 103(a) be withdrawn.

Claims 12 and 14 have been amended to now depend on amended claim 7 instead of claim 11 which has been canceled.

I hereby declare that no new matter has been added nor any technical information that was not present in my application as originally filed. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are

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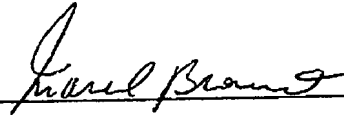
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believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the Application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Applicant respectfully requests that timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,



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